# LOG OF MEETING **DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES**

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SUBJECT:

Meeting of ASTM Subcommittee F15.29 for Playground Equipment for OEC -4 A 9: 20

**PLACE**: ASTM Headquarters

West Conshohocken, PA

DATE OF MEETING: June 17-18, 1998

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: John Preston, ES

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES**: John Preston, ES

### **NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**

Roger Amorosi, Detroit Testing Lab. Kert Artwick, Game Time Jay Blanke, Sportsplay Equipment Matthew Bolland, Newco Scott Burton, Safety Play Betsy Caesar, Play Care Bill Duffy, NSSEA Jack Gonzenbach, Miracle Esther Grossman, Custom Playgrounds Mike Hayward, Little Tikes Walter Henderson, Carlisle Tire & Rubber Teresa Hendy, Site Masters Paul Hogan, Playground Clearinghouse James Holt, L.A. Steelcraft Mogens Jensen, Kompan Tom Kalousek, Rockford Park District Mike Krygier, Detroit Testing Lab.

Michael McGuffie, New England Play Art Mittelstaedt, Rec. Safety Institute Tom Norquist, Game Time Robert Pepper, Childworks Barry Segal, Robert Leathers & Assoc. Richard Waugh, BCI Burke Robert Stluka, Miracle Wesley Sutton, Game Time Frances Wallach, Total Recreation Mgmt. Paul Danforth, Kompan Tom Barrett, Landscape Structures David Carrick, Playground Environments Peter Kells, Henderson Recreation Steven King, Landscape Structures Lloyd Reese, Little Tikes Elizabeth Roberts Play Access Jean Schappet, Consultant

#### **SUMMARY OF MEETING:**

#### Wednesday, June 17, 1998

After approval of the minutes of the last meeting, several people from other organizations involved in playground safety gave reports. In a report from CPSC, John Preston stated that, because of differences in playground surfacing test data from NPPS and CPSC, there would likely be a recommendation to make some changes to the ASTM F1292 standard.

A manufacturer noted that a revised Canadian standard for playground equipment has been published and is 80-85% in harmony with the ASTM F1487 standard.

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It was reported that an ASTM standard on playground fencing should go to ballot in about a month.

The chairman reported that there were a number of negative votes cast in the recent ballot of revisions to the F1487 standard. Copies of these negatives were given to the chairmen of the appropriate working groups for resolution. The chairman also asked the working groups to review the ASTM F1487-97c standard which was believed to have a number of omissions. At this point in the meeting, the subcommittee broke into working groups.

### Thursday, June 18, 1998

Reports from the working groups follow:

## Accessibility/Swings/Use Zones/Composite Structures

Two negative votes, one concerning belt swing clearances and the other concerning clearance of electrical wires were ruled non-persuasive. A comment regarding the absence of the contour on a test device used in measuring swing clearances was accepted.

### Falls/Access-Egress/Slides/Stepped Platforms/Platform Size

A negative concerning the depth that anchoring devices on cargo nets should be buried was withdrawn as was a negative regarding rungs not being able to twist or turn. Three negatives regarding the horizontal distance to the first rung of an overhead ladder were ruled persuasive. Negatives objecting to the reduction in depth of slide transition areas (from 22 inches to 15 inches) were ruled non-persuasive.

## Materials/Rotating & Rocking Equipment/Log Rolls/Structural Strength

Two negative votes were ruled non-persuasive. One concerned lateral loads on handrails and the other requested the addition of the words "motor development." Comments regarding a number of editorial changes were accepted.

#### Entrapment/Cable Rides/Track Rides/Roller Slides

Negative votes regarding age groups, entrapment, S-hooks and maximum length of unsecured rope were all found non-persuasive. Two negatives regarding pinching in swing hangers were found persuasive and this section will be rewritten.

#### Other Business

A letter requesting clarification on the fall height of sliding poles (platform height or pole height) was referred to the Use Zone working group for resolution.

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A motion was approved to redefine functionally linked as follows: "3.1.14 A play structure that acts as a single unit in its physical form or sense of function as a continuous play event even if the components are not physically linked."

Another motion was approved to change the use zone requirements as follows: "The use zone shall extend a minimum of 6 feet in all directions form the perimeter of the equipment. The use zones of two stationary pieces of playground equipment that are positioned adjacent to one another may overlap if the adjacent designated play surfaces of each structure are no more than 30 inches above the protective surface (i.e. they may be located a minimum distance of 6 feet apart). If adjacent designated play surfaces on either structure exceed a height of 30 inches, the minimum distance between the structures should be 9 feet."

The balance of the meeting was spent by reviewing previous changes to the F1487 standard that had been approved but did not get included into the 1997 version of the standard.

The next meeting of the subcommittee was scheduled for October 28-29, 1998.